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**U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**U.S. PATENT APPL NO. 10/798,246**

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App. No. 10/798,246

1. (Presently Amended) An endoluminal protection and access device for positioning within a ~~body~~ lumen of the gastrointestinal tract, which comprises:

an access member including an outer wall defining an internal lumen, the access member having a longitudinal axis and proximal and distal ends, the distal end being sufficiently blunt to prevent perforation of the gastrointestinal lumen during positioning of the device, the outer wall defining a window adjacent the distal end in communication with the internal lumen and being of a sufficient size to pass colostomy surgical instrumentation through said window, the access member having a cross-sectional dimension transverse to the longitudinal axis and a rigidity sufficient to stabilize the ~~body~~ gastrointestinal lumen upon positioning therein to maintain patency of the ~~body~~ gastrointestinal lumen.